Subject: 5 Million Page Downloads for Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming
Posted by David Fanning on Wed, 13 Mar 2013 14:16:30 GMT

Folks,

I was just glancing at the stats for Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming this morning. It seems like only a couple of months ago we were holding a contest for the 1 millionth page download. But, I see we are approaching 5 million now, and this will probably occur while I am trekking in Patagonia.

A couple of years ago, Google made a big change in their search algorithm and traffic was knocked down to about 1500 page downloads a day. Now it approaches 3000 most days, and sometimes more.

I'm always surprised to see what the most popular pages are. It varies a little bit from day to day, but not much. The Coyote Plot Gallery page is always found in the top two or three now, a relative newcomer who has pushed the usual suspects around a bit.

   http://www.idlcoyote.com/gallery/index.html

But, week in and week out, the two most popular pages are the pages that talk about Greek symbols:

   http://www.idlcoyote.com/ps_tips/greeksym.php
   http://www.idlcoyote.com/graphics_tips/lesign.php

Followed almost always by the page describing how to create a histogram plot:

   http://www.idlcoyote.com/graphics_tips/histoplot.php

The order varies a bit from day to day, but you can always count on finding these four pages in the top 10 on any given day.

Thanks to everyone who supports this work. It's clear that it is a significant resource to the IDL community.

Cheers,

David
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Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")